

Astronomy test #2 study guide

- The cosmic background radiation helps support the big bang theory
- The universe is approximately 13.7 billion years old
- Greater red shifts indicate faster speeds that objects are moving away from us
- Based on red-shift observations scientist have concluded that the universe is expanding
- Hubble's Law states that galaxies are retreating at a speed that is proportional to its distance
- The three types of galaxies are Spiral, Elliptical, and Irregular
- Galaxies are large group of stars much bigger than globular clusters
- 60% of all galaxies are classified as elliptical.
- A black holes gravitational effect is so great not even light can escape
- The next step in our Sun's life cycle is the red giant phase
- Our Sun is a main sequence star
- When a main sequence star exhausts its hydrogen in the core it will become a red giant
- Matter swirling around a black hole emits x-rays when it becomes super-heated
- When a Red giant's core becomes super-hot, it will convert Helium to Carbon in a nuclear reaction
- All stars regardless of size will run out of fuel and collapse
- Neutron stars form when protons and electrons merge forming neutrons
- A supernova will occur when a massive star nears the end of its life
- Hydrogen is the most abundant gas found in emission spectra of the Milky Way
- The force most responsible for the formation of a star is gravity
- A star is born when a protostar's core becomes hot enough for Nuclear Fusion to begin
- All stars form from clouds of gas and dust known as nebula
- Blue stars are the most massive stars in the Universe Red stars are the smallest
- About 90% of the stars in the universe are main-sequence stars
- The H-R diagram shows a relationship between absolute magnitude and temperature
- Apparent magnitude is how bright a star appears. The closest stars will always appear to be brighter because they are closer. Absolute magnitude is how bright a star is regardless of distance
- Light years measure stellar distances
- The Hottest stars in the universe are blue the coolest stars are red
- The mass of a star is determined by its color, Blue are the biggest and red are the smallest

- Yellow stars like our sun have surface temperatures between 5000-6000 degrees kelvin
- The Sun has enough hydrogen for about another 5.5 billion years before it evolves to a red giant
- In the equation $E=mc^2$ c is measured as the speed of light
- In the core of stars, the product of nuclear fusion is helium
- The chromosphere is the thin red glow seen around the sun during a solar eclipse it is the middle layer of the sun's atmosphere
- The outermost layer of the sun's atmosphere is the corona
- The innermost layer of the sun's atmosphere is the photosphere, which emits the light we see from the sun
- Chromatic aberration makes the images from stars weaker
- With several radio telescopes linked together, we call the resulting network an interferometer
- When an object's wavelength is moving towards you, the wavelength gets shorter
- The Doppler Effect is a wavelength changes as it moves towards or away from you
- A star's spectrum will tell us the chemical make-up of a star
- A continuous spectrum is produced by a solid, liquid, or gas
- Light can produce pressure on matter, which suggests it is made of photons
- Electromagnetic energy includes radio waves, microwaves, infrared, visible light, ultraviolet, x-rays, and gamma rays
- In the visible light portion of the Electromagnetic spectrum red light has the longest wavelength blue the shortest